The additional fleet will increase the carrying capacity of CIWTC by 4.97 lakh tonnes per annum. Apart from improving the financial viability of CIWTC, the acquisition of new vessels will augment IWT services to carry essential commodities to North-Eastern Region. It will also help to introduce river services between Haldia-Patna on the National Waterway (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly).

Death and disability among children

1795. SHEIMATI RENUKA cHOW-DHURY- Will the Minister of. HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UNICEF has reported that the time has come to put an end to the neglect of children;

(b) whether according to the report 40,000 young children die everyday and for millions more malnourished, blinded, suffering from brain damaged and are disabled:

(c) whether it has suggested to Government of India to take number of measures; and

(d) if so, whether Government have examined the report and what are the measures being considered by Government to ensure safe-guard the interests of young children during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARA-SIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The measures suggested by UNICEF in the report are for the World as a whole. To safeguard the interest of children, Government of India have already taken step-s in the field of immunisation, promotion of breast-feeding, proper weaning practices, Oral rehydration in diarrhoea, growth monitoring and birth spacing as suggested by UNICEF in the on I going health programmes and % ICDS projects run by Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Unsatisfactory telephones in Calcutta

1796. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUA-SEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state..

(a) whether it is a fact that the reasons for the highest number of average dead" telephones iu Calcutta are the ageing telephone exchanges and unsatisfactory performances of Penta Cbnta crossbar exchanges;

(b) if so, details of efforts made to improve the performances of telephone by installing better technology; and

(c) what is the amount of expenditure incurred for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir, The main reasons for dead/faulty lines in Calcutta Telephones are cable faults and thefts.

(b) Modern/better technology is being inducted in Calcutta Telephones by way of electronic exchanges, microwave transmission systems, optical fibre system and computers.

(c) The amount of money spent for replacement of exchanges and installing microwave systems between 1980-81 to 1984-85 was Rs. 35.5 crores.

Clearance of waiting list for new telephone connections

1797. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN- Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India had advised the Calcutta Telephone Authorities to provide new connection? to the applicants as the effort to clear the waiting list was very slow, being the lowest *n the country-

'(b) if so, what was the pefor-mance in this regard during the last 3 years and till date; and

(e) what are the steps taken to improve the performance in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. It was lowest amongst Metro Telephone Districts.

(b) New connections provided dur ing the last three years were as follows;

Year	Gross new connections provided
1884-85	10,872
1985-86	11,948
1986-87	8,860

(c) Switching capacity and exter nal plant are being augmented. 45000 line® equipment is planned to be added during 7th Five Year Plan. Out of these 15300 lines have already been added.

Loss <to Calcutta telephones

1798. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTER-JEE:

SHRI K. MOHANAN;

Will the Minister of COMMUNI-CATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main causes for loss of revenue by Calcutta Telephones during the last three years;

(b) what is the total amount of such loss as on date; and

(c) what is the percentage of new telephone connections given in the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) There had been no actual loss of revenue during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85. Rather, there had been an increase in revenue per line during this period.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The number of new connections given during the said period year-wise is shown in the enclosed Statement.

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Statement

CALCUTTA TELEPHONES

Year	No. of DELs average	New connections provided	Revenue (in crore)	Revenue per DEL
1982-83	182144	3884	Rs. 59.00	Rs. 3159
1983-84	186160	4192	Rs. 62·2	Rs. 3250
1984-85	192030	7509	Rs. 68·4	Rs 3612

Air India aircraft tyre bursts while landing in an airport recently

1799. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTER-JEE:

SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that another Air India aircraft bursts its tyre while landing recently;

(b) if so, what are the detailg of the said incident;